CHAPTER 232

(Senate Bill 693)

- AN ACT to add new Section 53 (2-1) (2) (C) to Article 88B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Replacement Volume), title "State Police," subtitle "State Police Retirement System," to follow immediately after Section 53 (2) (b) thereof; to repeal Section 53 (11) of said article, title and subtitle of the Code; and to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 56 (1) (a) of said article, title and subtitle of the Code; to provide a widow's benefit to be part of the service retirement allowance in the State Police Retirement System; to eliminate optional allowances in said Retirement System; to provide for an increase in the proportion of earnable compensation to be paid by each member of said Retirement System.
- SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That new Section 53 (2-1) (2) (C) be and it is hereby added to Article 88B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Replacement Volume), title "State Police," subtitle "State Police Retirement System," to follow immediately after Section 53 (2) (b) thereof; that Section 53 (11) of said article, title and subtitle of the Code be and it is hereby repealed; and that Section 56 (1) (a) of said article, title and subtitle of the Code be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments; and all to read as follows:

53.

- (2-1) (2) (C) Upon the death of any member who has retired on a retirement service allowance:
- (a) (I) There shall be paid to his widow, if he leaves a widow, to continue during her widowhood, one-half of his retirement allowance; or
- (b) (II) If there be no widow, or if the widow dies or remarries before the younger child of such deceased member shall have attained the age of eighteen, then one-half of the deceased member's retirement allowance shall be paid to his child or children, under said age if he leaves children, divided in such manner as the board in its discretion shall determine to continue as a joint and survivorship pension for the benefit of the child or children under said age until every child dies or attains said age.
- **[**(11) In lieu of the disability or service allowances payable under the aforesaid provisions, any member may, prior to the first retirement allowance payment normally due, elect a reduced retirement allowance of equivalent actuarial value in one of the optional forms set out below. The election of the option shall be made on a form provided for that purpose and shall be filed with the board of trustees. Should a member die prior to the expiration of thirty days after the date of the filing of such election or prior to thirty days after retirement, such election shall be void and of no effect, and the benefits payable on his account shall be the same as though his election had not been filed and he had died in active service. A member who has elected an optional benefit may change such election by due notice to the board of trustees, but no change may be made after the first payment of his allowance becomes normally due.